

Maurice Hinchey NEWS

26TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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TOMPKINS COUNTY AIRPORT AWARDED NEARLY \$1.2 MILLION

WASHINGTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today announced that the Federal Aviation Administration has awarded two Airport Improvement Program grants totaling \$1,169,833 to Tompkins County Airport. The funds will be used to rehabilitate the general aviation apron, to acquire land and equipment, and to make improvements to the terminal building.

"Safety must always be the number one consideration at any airport," said Hinchey. "These grants help Tompkins County Airport to maintain the highest safety standards. Keeping up the quality of the airport is also vital to the area's economic health."

The larger of the two grants, \$810,000, will be used to rehabilitate the airport's general aviation apron and remove obstructions on a recently acquired easement. The existing asphalt concrete ramp has not been rehabilitated in several years and is in need of pavement repairs and overlay.

The other grant, \$359,833, will be used to acquire a runway friction meter, a regional jet boarding bridge, and 30 acres of land for a runway approach zone. A runway friction meter is necessary during winter weather conditions to conduct testing surveys in accordance with FAA regulations. Acquiring a regional jet boarding bridge will allow passengers to enplane without having to walk across the existing air carrier ramp. The land purchase is necessary to prevent future development adjacent to the airport.

The FAA found that all of these projects would enhance safety at the airport.

The Airport Improvement Program (AIP) is a grant program that provides federal funding for eligible projects at public-use airports that are listed in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS).

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